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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): CORN-ING CABLE SYSTEMS LLC [US/US]; 800 17th Street NW, PO Box 489, Hickory, NC 28603 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): RENFRO, JR., James G. [US/US]; 230 37th Avenue Place NW, Hickory, NC 28601 (US). ROARK, Bryan R. [US/US]; 2135 Summerfield Circle, Conover, NC 28613 (US).

(74) Agent: DREMANN, Christopher C.; CORNING CA-BLE SYSTEMS LLC, 800 17th Street NW, PO Box 489, Hickory, NC 28603 (US).

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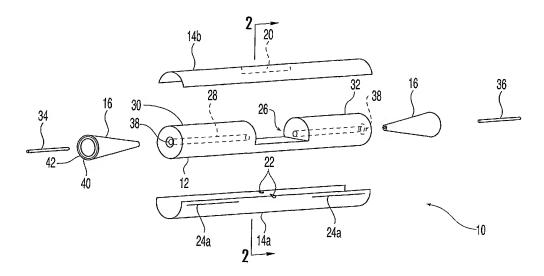
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(54) Title: FIBER OPTIC SPLICE COMPONENT HAVING INTERNAL ELECTRODES



(57) Abstract: A fiber optic splice component is provided with a ferrule (12) having an opening therein, a housing (14a, b) to hold the ferrule, and at least one electrode (22) in the housing for fusing optical fibers inserted into the opening (26). A method and machine to fuse optical fibers in a fiber optic splice component is also provided, with the method and machine being capable of melting a protection element around the fused optical fibers. A splicing ferrule with a lead-in portion (38) at each end of the ferrule is also provided.